

**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE ARIZONA STATE SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

June 12, 2014

North Central Regional Cooperative, Flagstaff, AZ

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Sherri Collins, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at approximately 4:03 p.m. Ms. Collins introduced Angela Denning, representing John Huppenthal, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and a new Board member replacing Marv Lamer.

Members Present: Elaine Baldrige, Sherri Collins, Angela Denning

Members Present Telephonically: Dr. Mark Syms, Orlenda Roberts, Taralynn Petrites; Michael William (joined at 4:53 p.m.)

Members Absent: Michael Gordon, Dr. Kathy Jankowski

Others Present: Dr. Marv Lamer, Interim Superintendent, William Koehler, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Kim Anderson, Representative from the Office of the Attorney General

**II. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

None submitted.

**III. Consent Agenda**

***It was moved by Elaine Baldrige, seconded by Orlenda Roberts, and unanimously carried that the Board approve Items B, C, D, and E on the Consent Agenda as presented.***

***It was moved by Angela Denning, seconded by Elaine Baldrige, and unanimously carried that the Board approve Item A, Minutes of April 10, 2014 as presented, and May 1, 2014, with the recommended correction.***

Spoke to the Issue: Sherri Collins, Marv Lamer, Elaine Baldrige.

Ms. Collins and Dr. Lamer explained that Dr. Jankowski requested a correction in the minutes of May 1, 2014 to remove her as in attendance; she was not in attendance at that meeting.

**IV. President's Report**

Ms. Collins stated she would like to see more Deaf/Hard of Hearing, and Visually Impaired/Blind community members at board meetings. She asked if there were community members in the audience. Marabelle, a 16 year old student who is visually impaired, stated she was from Sedona and in attendance with her father.

V. Interim Superintendent's Report

Dr. Lamer stated that he would like to begin planning a retreat for Board members with a focus on Board policies and procedures. He estimated a time block of four hours. Discussion took place on the possibility of combining with the August meeting, however it conflicted with some of the members. Dr. Lamer suggested September and include a tour of the campus.

Dr. Lamer gave an update on the Superintendent search. He recommended the board complete the process with state procurement, i.e., scope of work, expectations of vendor, etc. A suggestion was made to invite ASBA.

Dr. Lamer referred questions from board members on the New Hire and Turnover reports to Mr. Koehler. Mr. Koehler explained that there are a number open vacancies within the ASDB including ASD and PDSB Principals, teachers, and support staff positions. Ms. Collins asked about contract positions and whether they could be hired and board approved before the beginning of school. Mr. Koehler advised the only contracted positions at this time were the Principal positions. Dr. Lamer commented that he will request the HR office to be more aggressive and to advertise on other websites. Ms. Denning suggested posting online at Arizona Education Employment Board. Ms. Baldrige also suggested posting on the AER listserv.

The Board requested a copy of vacancies.

VI. Acting Assistant Superintendent's Report

Mr. Koehler introduced the presentation on the North Central and Eastern Highlands Regional Cooperatives. Ms. Ruth Parsons and Ms. Jane MacDonald spoke on and presented a PowerPoint on the cooperative programs, how they work, AIMS results per Cooperative, travel time vs. education time, and the number of districts enrolled, the number of students served, and use of Educational Interpreters.

Ms. Baldrige, Ms. Collins and Ms. Denning spoke on the issue of AIMS testing and outcomes; possibility of combining students from several schools.

The Board asked for the PowerPoints to be emailed to them again as some did not receive prior to the meeting.

(Michael Williams joined the meeting at 4:53 p.m.)

Ms. Baldrige asked for more clarification in travel time vs. classroom time for teachers. Ms. McDonald explained that, even though travel times can be excessive, they are meeting the IEP goals. A possible solution to spend more education time would be to hire more teachers, and to retain current teachers, pay a better wage. Ms. Denning thanked Ms. Parsons and Ms. MacDonald for the presentation and asked how ADOE could help. The Directors explained that they do use ADOE for support, resources, and questions. Discussion on how student assessments could move forward; more training of staff – suggested all staff professional development days.

VII. Public Comment

Susan Immel, Teacher at ASDB for 16 years, spoke on the issue of salaries for 10+ year teachers; newly hired teachers are paid more than seasoned teachers; confusing salary schedules and check stubs. She asked for the board's commitment to teachers.

Kay Rivers, Administrative Secretary in NCR, spoke about comparing clerical salaries of ASDB employees vs. other districts. Minimum in her research for a secretary salary is \$33,000 a year.

Jacqlyn Davoll, Coordinating Teacher of the D/HH, spoke about Itinerant teachers and of how they are expected to meet student needs. In order to be able to do this they need access to working computers and IT technologies. What they have now is not appropriate to be able to teach the students.

(Orlenda Roberts left the meeting at 5:20 p.m.)

(Mike Williams left the meeting at 5:43 p.m.)

Denise Pizzi, Teacher of the D/HH and VI, spoke on salary inequities on how she has taught for 13 years at ASDB and has never received a substantial raise, however, new staff are coming in on a higher rate of pay and making more than the staff who have been here over 10 years.

Laura Vasiliauskas, Teacher of D/HH, spoke on new programs that will be taking place for the 2014-15 school year. She also spoke about a long term goals to bring students a further distance in learning.

Lisa Ring, Coordinating Teacher, presented a PowerPoint on the Birth – 3 program; a newly formed parent/toddler class and monthly parent meetings. She will also be presenting our program at Gallaudet University.

VIII. Summary of Current Events, Future Meeting Dates, and Items for Future Agendas

Dr. Lamer will have his staff send an email to board members regarding dates for a September retreat. Dr. Ms. Petrites asked that past items she has requested to be on the agenda be added for August. Dr. Lamer stated Dr. Jankowski also had items for the next meeting. Ms. Baldrige asked about the inequity in teacher pay. Dr. Lamer stated he is establishing a work group and also looking at various areas of the budget. He asked Mr. Koehler to report at the next meeting.

***It was moved by Angela Denning, seconded by Elaine Baldrige, and unanimously carried that the Board adjourn the meeting.***

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 pm.

*DATED and POSTED this 17<sup>TH</sup> day of June, 2014 by Mary Fult  
for the ASDB Board of Directors*